



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held June 10, 2008, the Board took the following action:

62-A

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"Shelter Partnership, Inc., which conducts research and policy analysis on behalf of our region's homeless population, released the Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan on March 20, 2008. This groundbreaking Plan was developed over an 18-month period and involved numerous stakeholders, including County staff from various Departments, as well as staff from the Chief Executive Office. The Plan includes considerable data and analysis of the needs of adults 62 years-of-age and older who are homeless in our County.

"Among the findings are:

- There are between 3,000 and 4,000 homeless older adults in Los Angeles County and the population will increase significantly, in part because of the aging of the baby boomer generation. Two-thirds are men and one-third are women;
- Unlike younger single homeless populations, almost two-thirds of homeless older adults have an income from a Federal source, either SSI Disability, Social Security, or both. However, their incomes are inadequate to access and maintain market rate housing. Simultaneously, there are many barriers that preclude them from securing subsidized senior housing, including applications procedures that rely on mailing addresses and screening processes that include home visits;
- 62% of homeless older adults report a disability of some sort, with 89% of those disabilities being physical in nature;
- At least one-third and perhaps as many as one-half are chronically homeless; and

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- 28% of homeless older adults report prior military service, which is twice as high as the general homeless population in Los Angeles County.

"The Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan makes recommendations on how to solve homelessness for older adults. The majority of the recommendations address the need for this population to be able to secure permanent supportive affordable housing, such as has been accomplished in such cities as Boston, New York, San Diego, San Francisco and Seattle, which report cost savings in systems such as public health attributable to permanently housing chronically homeless individuals. Many of the recommendations have little or no associated County cost (i.e. networking between social service agencies and senior housing developers, set-asides in affordable housing developments and homeless Section 8 Voucher set-asides)."

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Chief Executive Officer was instructed, in conjunction with the Directors of Community and Senior Services, Mental Health, Public Health and Public Social Services, and the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission, to report back within 60 days on:

1. The feasibility of implementing the recommendations of the Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan;
2. Possible funding sources for recommendations that require County funding to implement should the Plan implementation prove feasible;
3. Any technical changes to program and procurement policies to facilitate implementation of the Plan recommendations, where appropriate; and
4. Delineation of any opportunities for collaboration and cooperation among County departments to support implementation of the Plan recommendations.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Director of Community and Senior Services  
Director of Mental Health  
Director of Public Health  
Director of Public Social Services  
Executive Director of the  
Community Development Commission